

Minutes

Trinity Primary School Parent Council

Held on Tuesday 30th November 2021: 7:30pm

Attendees:

Helen Duncan (Chair), Jacqueline Scott (HT), Aimi Armstrong, Kev Head, Julie Wardhaugh, Will Inglis, Krystelle Bamford, Jen Bird, Kristin Deeken, Sandy Robinson, Toby Kelly, Cllr Jim Campbell, Angela Hassard

Apologies: Tim Gregg, Cllr Ellie Bird, Cheryl Berthinussen

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes approved.

HD attended a useful online session on safe Internet use for children. Lots of interesting information on brain development and safe internet use at differing ages. HD will resend link to useful info. Perhaps consider event or online seminar for TPS parents/carers in future.

3. Correspondence

Leith Sea Scouts – ongoing correspondence on use of scout hall on polling day. Edinburgh Council continue to look for alternate options and will be in touch when they have more information to share.

4. HT Report:

See attached HT report

Staffing:

Higher than usual absence and staff have been hugely supportive and flexible in accommodating last minute changes.

P7 learners are working in rota to support office each morning.

Huge benefit to having a stable senior leadership team and a number of new PSAs now settled in.

Early Years Practitioner now permanent in school and has been extremely successful.

Facilities:

Remedial work completed on mound over October holidays.

Learning:

Parent/carers conversations with teachers taking place but a delay in P2 meetings is now being addressed.

Christmas:

Thanks to everyone who has donated additional Christmas jumpers. Christmas Art Day was based on the “Snowman” and it’s hoped that some of this art can be shared online with parents.

Star Time scheduled for Thursday 2nd Dec and lots of Christmas activities planned over the next few weeks. An outdoor service is planned this year and Parents & carers for P7 will be

welcomed. P1s are filming their nativity and P3 have a show "Pirates vs Mermaids" and this will be outdoors and P3 parents & carers will be welcome to attend.

Parent questions:

Children's profiles are being sent using either One Note or paper copies this year but there have been several issues with parents accessing One Note. Any issues at all parents should please contact school for support.

A small number of issues had been raised regarding the P5 swimming mostly related to the expectations for this short 4-week block. Again, parents should please contact the school with any specific concerns.

5. School Start & Finish Times

Budget for staffing is based on prescribed school hours: 22.5 hours for P1 & P2 vs 25 hours P3-P7 per week. There is currently no budget to provide an additional 2.5 hours for P1 & P2 pupils so a difference in the length of the school day is required. This 30 min difference each day will be split between the start and end of day except for Friday where finish time will be the same. When restrictions allow P4-P7 will be able to exit from any gate. However, **no changes in start and finish times are proposed for now and will be dependent on restrictions easing.**

Breakfast club is still open in morning and has spaces available.

6. Scottish Government Consultation

Overall feedback from the PC members who completed the consultation questionnaire is that there is general support to for Curriculum for Excellence but many expressed doubts as to how it is delivered and assessed. The responses have been collated and submitted although it is unclear if we will hear any response back.

It is seen as important for learners to understand that there is a holistic approach taken to education and that careers can take several paths. There are many examples of how taking a different, or less direct, path has led to hugely successful outcomes and it was discussed that Trinity Academy are providing their students with practical examples of how individuals have taken differing paths both at the start and throughout their careers.

7. Wide Engagement: Locality/Trinity Community Council

CCWP (Consultative Committee Working with Parents): HD attending CCWP and will be raising the issue that over time, due to restrictions, there is a risk of losing the wider school community. For example, we don't have parents and carers engaging with the school on a more regular basis such as coffee morning, parent's nights, helping at star times. Parents & carers have a desire to know more about their school, and be more involved in the school, but opportunities are limited. This issue of lack of engagement and the risk of losing community should be considered by CEC when making decisions about any ongoing access to schools and CEC should also be considering the future challenge of rebuilding school communities.

TCC: The future of Trinity Academy was on the agenda at the Trinity Community Council with the new head teacher attending to discuss the Vision & Values of the school, the Bangholm development, and the early work underway for the rebuild. It was noted that that the playing fields will be ready slightly earlier than planned in the autumn of 2022 and will be managed by Edinburgh Leisure.

Cllr JC noted that Edinburgh Council does not have a committed capital programme at the moment. So, whilst the TA rebuild is included in the capital programme, it has no specific funding. Other issues regarding cost inflation as well as the additional costs of building to the new Edinburgh Council building standards are putting more pressure on costs.

Litter issues in Victoria Park also raised at TCC and it was noted that a difference has been made by the combined litter picking efforts of the local community, TA students and friend of Victoria Park.

8. Accounts:

Nothing to report.

9. AOCB

Out of School Lets:

School Lets are open for primary school until 6pm. But otherwise, no update.

11. Meeting Dates

Tuesday January 18th (online)

Tuesday March 15th (online)

Tuesday June 7th (at school tbc)